Message Text

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15

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

IO-10 SAM-01 /068 W

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R 250356Z JUL 75

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6098 INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 8528

NOFORN

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PINT CH

SUBJECT: PROVINCIAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESSES

REF: HONG KONG 8527

1. HONG KONG TA KUNG PAO EDITOR FEI I-MIN IN CONVERSATION WITH CONGEN OFFICERS JULY 23 (REFTEL) ALSO REVEALED THAT CHINA'S PROVINCES ARE PLANNING TO CONVENE "PEOPLE'S CONGRESSES" TO ELECT NEW GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATIVE BODIES AT THAT LEVEL "IN THE NEAR FUTURE" AND "CERTAINLY THIS YEAR." THE CONGRESSES--AS MENTIONED IN ARTICLES 21 AND 22 OF THE CONSTITUTION ADOPTED BY JANUARY'S NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS--WILL ELECT A "STANDING COMMITTEE" WHICH WILL THEN BECOME THE GOVERNING BODY FOR THE PROVINCIAL UNITS. FEI ASSERTED THAT THIS BODY WOULD STILL BE CALLED A "REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE" (RC) AS SPECIFIED IN THE CONSTITUTION. OTHER FEI REMARKS ON GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION SUGGEST THAT PEKING'S PLAN WILL CONFIDENTIAL

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BE TO FORM THESE COMMITTEES ON THE BASIS OF THE THREE-WAY

AGE COMBINATION OF OLD, MIDDLE-AGED, AND YOUNG RATHER THAN THE PREVIOUS CULTURAL REVOLUTION RC COMBINATION OF CADRE, PLA, AND MASSES.

2. COMMENT: ELECTION OF NEW GOVERNMENTAL BODIES IS LONG OVERDUE, FOLLOWING THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION'S PIECEMEAL ESTABLISHMENT OF REVOLTUIONARY COMMITTEES AND PATCHING TO-GETHER OF RULING GROUPS WHICH WERE SUBSEQUENTLY ROCKED BY THE LIN PIAO AFFAIR AND THEN FURTHER MODIFIED BY REHABILITATIONS OF NUMEROUS VETERAN CADRES AND THE "BACK TO THE BARRACKS" POLICY. NEW MEETINGS WOULD BE ANOTHER STEP IN THE PROCESS OF NORMALIZATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS AND A FEATHER IN PEKING'S CAP DEMONSTRATING GREATER ACHIEVEMENT OF STABILITY AND UNITY IN THE COUNTRY. HOWEVER, WITH ONLY FIVE MONTHS LEFT TO GO THIS YEAR, AND PERSISTENT THOUGH MUTED SIGNS OF FACTIONAL TROUBLES--SUFFICIENT PERHAPS TO HAVE HELD UP MASS ORGANIZATION CONGRESSES--PEKING IS LIKELY TO FIND IT DIFFICULT TO COMPLETE ALL 29 OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESSES BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR. **CROSS**

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